

NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



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2202 Monterey St. Suite 104-F
Fresno, CA 93721
Phone: 559-487-5178 FAX: 559-487-5199
Federal Market News Service
21 North 1st Ave., Suite 224
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November 15, 2004

HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 2004 IN VOLUMES OF 10,000 POUNDS OR GREATER UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

Prices paid to beekeepers for extracted, unprocessed honey in major producing states by packers, handlers & other large users, cents per pound, f.o.b. or delivered nearby, containers exchanged or returned, prompt delivery & payment unless otherwise stated.

- REPORT INCLUDES BOTH NEW AND OLD CROP HONEY -

ARKANSAS	- Soybean, light amber, 75¢
CALIFORNIA	- Alfalfa, white, \$1.09 (small lot) - - - - Alfalfa, extra light amber, 89¢ - Alfalfa, light amber, 79¢ - \$1.49 (small lots) - Cotton, extra light amber, 89¢ - \$1.03 - - - - - Cotton, light amber, 69 - 79¢ - Cotton/Alfalfa, extra light and light amber, 68 - 69¢ - Mixed Flowers, extra light amber, 75¢ - \$1.04 - Mixed Flowers, light amber, 69 - 85¢ (higher price, delayed payment) - Orange Blossom, white, \$1.24 - 1.30 (higher price, delayed payment)
COLORADO	- Alfalfa, light amber, 70¢
FLORIDA	- Gallberry, extra light amber, 96¢ - \$1.01 - - - - Gallberry, cut comb, \$1.50# - Orange Blossom, extra light amber, 96¢ - \$1.01 - Saw Palmetto, extra light amber, \$1.20# <i>#Previously Contracted</i>
GEORGIA	- Gallberry, extra light amber, \$1.16
IDAHO	- Alfalfa, extra light amber, 89¢ - - - - Alfalfa, light amber, 69 - 89¢ (higher price, small lot) - Alfalfa, amber, 66 - 69¢ - Clover, white, \$1.09 - - - - Clover, extra light amber, \$1.00 (small lot) - - - - Clover, amber, 80¢
KANSAS	- Alfalfa, extra light amber, 90¢ (small lot) - - - - - Alfalfa, light amber, 81¢
LOUISIANA	- Chinese Tallow, light amber, 67¢
MICHIGAN	- Clover, extra light amber, \$1.20 (small lot)
MINNESOTA	- Basswood/Lindon/Mint, white, \$1.10 - Clover, white, \$1.10 (small lot)
MISSOURI	- Alfalfa, extra light amber, 90¢ (small lot)
MONTANA	- Alfalfa, extra light amber, 89¢ - Clover, white, \$1.07 - 1.15 - Knapweed, white, \$1.09
NORTH DAKOTA	- Alfalfa, extra light amber, 95¢ - - - - Alfalfa, light amber, 70¢ - 1.10 (higher price, small lot) - Clover, white, \$1.05 - 1.10 - - - - Clover, extra light amber, \$1.00 - 1.10 - Sunflower, extra light amber, 90¢

OHIO	- Clover, white, \$1.10 - 1.20 ----- Clover, extra light amber, 90¢ - \$1.00
OREGON	- Alfalfa, white, \$1.08 - 1.19 ----- Alfalfa, extra light amber, \$1.08 - 1.09 - Clover, white, \$1.19 ----- Clover, extra light amber, \$1.19 (small lot) - Wildberry, extra light amber, 99¢ ----- Wildberry, extra light amber, 99¢ - Wildberry, amber, 68¢ - Wildflowers, light amber, 68¢
SOUTH DAKOTA	- Clover, white, \$1.10 – 1.20 - Clover, extra light amber, 90¢ ----- light amber, 70¢
TEXAS	- Chinese Tallow, light amber, 70¢ - Cotton, extra light amber, 90¢ - Mesquite, extra light amber, 95¢ - \$1.05
WASHINGTON	- Alfalfa, extra light amber, \$1.00 - Fireweed, white, \$1.05 (purchased in September)
WISCONSIN	- Clover, white, \$1.00 – 1.30
WYOMING	- Clover/Alfalfa, white, \$1.05 - \$1.40

Prices paid to Canadian beekeepers for unprocessed bulk honey by packers & importers in U.S. currency, f.o.b. shipping point, containers included unless otherwise stated. Duty & crossing charges extra. Cents per pound.

PROVINCE NOT REPORTED	- Canola, white, \$1.09 - Clover, white, \$1.00
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Prices paid to importers for bulk honey, duty paid, containers included, cents per pound ex-dock or point of entry unless otherwise stated.

EAST COAST.....	ARGENTINA	- Mixed Flowers, white, 99¢ - - - - Mixed Flowers, extra light amber, 99¢
	BRAZIL	- Mixed Flowers, extra light & light amber, 94¢
	MEXICO	- Mesquite, white, 99¢ - Mixed Flowers, light amber, 67¢
WEST COAST.....	CHINA	- Mixed Flowers, white, 60¢
	VIETNAM	- Mixed Flowers, light amber, 75¢

COLONY, HONEY PLANT AND MARKET CONDITIONS DURING OCTOBER, 2004

ALABAMA ~ ~ ~

Harvest was very good this year. The yield was above average, and the quality was very good as well. Many beekeepers report fewer losses this year than usual. The interesting difference this year is that there is basically no cotton honey. Almost all nectar was gathered from flowering trees in the springtime. Because of the cool weather, everything has slowed down and ready for winter.

ARKANSAS ~ ~ ~

Pollen and nectar sources are goldenrod, aster, native grasses and weeds. Bee colonies are strong and pest free. Weather has been tending towards the dry right now. There is little to non existent flow right now, but that is very normal for this time of year. Supply and demand are still good on both counts.

CALIFORNIA ~ ~ ~

The first half of October was fairly normal across the State. Temperatures were mostly near normal and the only rainfall came primarily from an occasional thunderstorm. The hot, dry weather created perfect conditions for several wildflowers which covered the Central Valley with smoke. On the 13th, San Francisco had a record high of 93 degrees. Two days later, the weather did a complete turn-around and the first winter storm of the season moved across the State. Rain was reported in all areas, some heavy enough to cause mudslides. The first significant snow fell in the Sierra Nevada Mountains and temperatures dropped below normal. San Diego received their first rain of the season on the 17th but it was too late to prevent their longest period on record with measurable precipitation (182 days). By the 18th of October, the storms broke several long-standing precipitation records. In Southern California, 48-hour rainfall exceeded 10" in a few locations. Santa Ana collected 3.15" on the 20th, surpassing its record for the entire month of October. The stormy weather continued through the end of the month bringing cool conditions and daily-record lows around the 26th. During the 2-week period ending October 28th, precipitation ranged from 10-20" at several locations in Southern California and by the end of the month, several areas' precipitation totals were 1,000% of normal. It was also the wettest October on record at many stations. With the rains also came much cooler temperatures. Areas that had highs in the mid-80s to low 100s were reporting highs only in the 60's and 70s the end of the month.

Mites and the damage they are doing to colonies continues to be the number one problem in Central and Northern California. With the wet weather, bees were unable to leave their hives a several days at a time for cleansing flights which only added to the trouble. And, they were hungry going into October as a lot of the regular fall foliage dried up in September. Beekeepers continued a vigorous assault on the mites by adding several types of treatments. The most discouraging point to beekeepers is they just get the mites under control in their own colonies and other bees fly in and infect their bees again. Regular treatments that used to last for 8-12 months are now losing their effectiveness in 4 months.

Packers reported they are still being offered adequate amounts of honey but the prices are very unsettled. A few producers are holding this year's crop as prices have been dropping. A small amount of wax was taken in for \$1.15 for trade or cash.

COLORADO ~ ~ ~

Pollen and nectar sources are goldenrod, aster, native grasses and weeds. Bee colonies are strong and pest free. Weather has been tending towards the dry right now. There is little to non-existent flow right now, but that is very normal for this time of year. Supply and demand are still good on both counts.

FLORIDA ~ ~ ~

The most prevalent supply of honey coming out of the south Florida is Brazilian Pepper. The flow is lighter than normal due to extensive defoliation caused by this summer's series of hurricanes. Melaleuca is blooming now and should continue through the winter months.

In the northern part of the state bees are picking up pollen and nectar from Goldenrod, Spanish needles and other wild flowers. Bee health is generally good and adequate moisture is available.

GEORGIA ~ ~ ~

Colonies around the state were in generally good condition. Many colonies during the month were in need of additional feeding with sugar or corn syrup as the fall honey flow was disappointing, producing almost no surplus honey and leaving many colonies in need of additional feeding. During the month there was a very limited amount of pollen and nectar available from goldenrod with no other significant food sources available. In October many beekeepers were finishing up preventative antibiotic treatment for American Foul Brood. Colony populations are now in their normal fall decline. Weather during October was warm with adequate moisture.

IDAHO ~ ~ ~

Temperatures were cooler than normal, but there were no early frosts in October. The State received a lot of moisture during the month but it doesn't take it out of drought-like conditions yet. The bees got very little flight time, but they were able to bring in some pollen from rabbit brush, sage weeds, and a few late trees; and nectar from Buckwheat which makes a light colored honey. The bees appear to be in fairly good condition, however, the Varroa mites have become a large threat to the industry as they have formed a resistance to both the Apistan and Check Mite strips. Beekeepers finished extracting honey during the month. Their honey crop was nearly normal. Other activities included feeding the bees and getting them ready for either winter storage or shipping to California for pollination. Idaho isn't the only state having trouble controlling the mites so the number of hives nationwide has decreased to the point that pollination rates have been rising & are expected to rise even more before the crops in Texas, California & Washington are pollinated.

INDIANA ~ ~ ~

Beekeepers reported colonies had a good month of collection activity. The goldenrod and aster flow was exceptionally good and hives were strong with plenty of stores heading into winter. Clover continued to produce a heavy flow due to warmer than normal temperatures. Across most of the State, colonies were in generally better condition than normal with very little foul brood and mite problems reported.

Honey movement was reported well with very little honey in beekeepers hands. Beekeepers were busy attending many local fall meetings with an increasing interest in new beekeepers attending those meetings. Bulk movement was slow as little honey was in beekeepers hands.

ILLINOIS ~ ~ ~

Beekeepers were busy checking and treating their hives before winter set in. Weather conditions were ideal for the bees as they had an exceptional flow from aster, goldenrod, and numerous wild flowers. Some hives were overfilled and beekeepers extracted honey to be used for future overwinter feeding. Disease related problems and foul brood was less frequent than in past years. Beekeepers had been attending fall meetings and were encouraged with beekeepers reports of colonies with little problems which had plagued beekeepers in recent years. Beekeepers were expecting bees to overwinter well at this point.

Honey sales were reported good and bulk honey movement was slow due to very little honey in beekeepers hands.

MINNESOTA ~ ~ ~

Temperatures were generally cool for the month with above normal precipitation. The weather was so cool that in some vases it was difficult for bees to feed on the supplemental syrup that was provided for them, however, they were able to get enough to survive on until they begin pollinating crops in Texas and California. There was no nectar or pollen collected during the month. The states honey crop was below normal with estimates from industry contact of Western Minnesota being down 25-30 percent and Eastern Minnesota down 10 percent. Beekeepers say that the main reason for this decrease in production was a record cold August. Mites are becoming increasingly difficult to control as they have formed resistance to most of the approved treatments. The number of bees in colonies with deformed wings and demonstrating bizarre behavior has increased. Bees are being checked, fed, and treated and are getting ready to go to Texas for pollination. Because of the decrease in the number of hives available, pollination rates are increasing for both the Texas and California pollination season.

The Minnesota Honey Producers meeting will be held December 3-5 at the Bloomington MN Holiday Inn Select. Everyone is welcome to attend.

MISSISSIPPI ~ ~ ~

Colonies around the state were in generally good condition. In the southern portion of the state, colonies were sustaining themselves on stores of honey in the hives, supplemented where necessary with corn syrup. In the central and northern portions of the state, colonies were sustaining themselves on stores of honey produced from an above average fall honey flow. Around the state there was a limited amount of pollen available from fall wildflowers, but there were no significant sources of nectar during the latter portion of the month. Extraction of honey is now mostly complete statewide. During the month many beekeepers were applying preventative antibiotic treatment for American Foul Brood. Colony populations are now in their normal fall decline. Weather in October was warm statewide and for the most part drier than normal conditions existed in the southern portion of the state, adequate in moisture levels in the central portion, and wetter than normal in the northern portion of the state.

MISSOURI, IOWA, EASTERN KANSAS & NEBRASKA ~ ~ ~

Precipitation range from normal to slightly above normal for the lower midwest, as Nebraska Missouri and Kansas temperatures were slightly above normal, while Iowa was below normal. Average temperatures were slightly above normal.

Harvesting has completed and most beekeepers are preparing for winterizing. Feeding will continue. Some bees had mite problems, but for the most part populations were in good condition.

MONTANA ~ ~ ~

An early October front brought the coolest temperatures for October as hard freezes were experienced state wide, first snows accumulated at higher elevations while light precipitation fell throughout the State. Later, temperatures moderated and skies cleared for much of the middle of the month, before the weather again turned colder as several fronts brought the first lasting snow packs of the year and light valley rains.

MONTANA continued...

Beekeepers began trucking colonies from Montana to wintering locations in California's Central Valley during October. Heavy infestations with mites within colonies required keepers to combine weaker colonies before the trip south. Hives wintering over in Montana were prepared with food supplies and packed in their winter packs as local nectar and pollen sources died out with the colder temperatures. The bees had an adequate number of warm days for cleansing flights and water during October.

NEW ENGLAND ~ ~ ~

Temperatures for the first part of October were above normal. Temperatures ranged from the high 60s to the mid 70s with a high of 76 degrees on October 8th. In the latter half of the month daytime temperatures dropped into the low 60s with an overnight low of 31 degrees on the 26th. Precipitation was below normal for the month.

Beekeepers report harvest off by 25-30% in most areas. Some report harvesting only 50% of last seasons total. Most have been feeding syrup for the last month trying to strengthen the hives for the winter and some estimate at least 30-40% of their hives will probably not survive the winter. Honey sales remain active with 25% increase over last year.

NORTH CAROLINA ~ ~ ~

Temperatures have been unusually warm for the month of October, with some record breaking days recorded. Due to all the rain that was received during the month of September, there was very little fall honey produced. Beekeepers are concerned about having such low stores, that some of the hives may be lost during the winter months. The mite situation is under control. There has been some resistance, but the treatments available have been very effective. With such little honey stored, available honey for retail sales has been scarce. There has been very little sourwood honey available. Honey sales have been excellent for what is available.

NORTH AND SOUTH DAKOTA ~ ~ ~

The warm, sunny conditions that continued through the last day of September changed dramatically the first day of October. Record highs turned to record lows as many areas saw their first hard freeze of the season. As quickly as temperatures dropped, they began to rise again and both states recorded highs as much as 9-10 degrees above normal for the next two weeks. North Dakota had their first measurable snowfall of the season on October 17th but generally, both states were fairly dry. A day earlier, parts of South Dakota reported record lows when nighttime temperatures dipped into the teens. Conditions were fairly normal for the next week with highs in the mid-40s and 50s and lows mostly in the 20s. The last week of October, temperatures began to rise again with daytime highs mostly in the 60s and 70s. Severe thunderstorms moved across North Dakota bringing high winds and heavy rains. Fargo collected consecutive daily-record totals of 1.56-2.05" on the 29th. South Dakota also set record precipitation totals when some areas recorded 1.50" to over 2".

Some producers continued extracting honey throughout the month. The crop is reported to be about normal and comes mostly from clover but some reported they got a little buckwheat honey this year. Migratory beekeepers usually have their bees in warmer, southern states by the end of October but the honey crop was late this year. The bees are reported to be in fairly good condition with a few mites discovered that is being linked to smaller cluster size. Treatments were added along with significant amounts of feed before the hives were stacked and covered with insulation and hauled to winter locations.

OHIO ~ ~ ~

October has been favorable for collection of light honey from goldenrod and aster. Hives do vary from heavy to light depending on individual circumstances. Flow is about done now with negligible amounts trickling in.

OKLAHOMA ~ ~ ~

Honey flow is over in this area. We are cautioning the beekeepers to check their hives to make sure they have enough food to potentially carry the bees through until spring. Many are feeding sugar syrup and some are putting candy on the hives. The AHB has been identified in 9 counties in Oklahoma. NEOBA and some of the other associations are working with the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture and state legislature to form some new apiary rules.

We are making plans on how to educate the public now about AHB and what to do about swarms. Most people got a decent honey crop this year but people are learning how much better raw honey is that proceeded the demand is larger than the supply. No one has a surplus and no trouble selling it.

OKLAHOMA continued...

The Big Bee Buzz from seminar this year. Kim Flottum editor of Bee Culture magazine was our key note speaker. Dr. Harrington Wells, honeybee research from University of Tulsa, Doug Dear from the Dept. of Ag. Ok were the other speakers. This is an annual event for the past 7 years and always has a packed house. NEOBA has over 200 members at present. We have over 70 people interested in taking our Basic Beekeeping course we will start in January. Education is one of our main objectives in the NEOBA.

TEXAS ~ ~ ~

Still feeding on what ever wild flowers are left. Bee colonies are in good condition. We have had a rather wet month, so the honey flow picked up. The supply and demand remains good. There are still a few hives needing to be feed. But for the most part they are in good condition.

UTAH ~ ~ ~

October moisture levels were record setting and temperatures were cooler than normal. Conditions which did not allow a lot of flight time for the bees during the month. There was virtually no pollen or nectar collected in October. The 2004 honey crop was generally average, although some areas did see a slight increase in production. "The Varroa mite is back with a vengeance," said one beekeeper. Losses state wide are higher than normal. The majority of the month was spent extracting the honey, feeding, checking and treating the bees.

WASHINGTON ~ ~ ~

October began with occasional rainshowers across the State, sometimes heavy as Bellingham received 1.70" on the 6th. Cool, fall weather moved in the second week of October along with rain, especially in Eastern Washington. Ephrata, in Central Washington, recorded .92" on the 16th. Temperatures were mostly in the upper 60's to mid-70's in all areas with nighttime lows in the mid-30's to upper-40's. Temperatures continued to drop through the end of the month with some parts of Central and Eastern Washington seeing their first below freezing nights. The rains did improve soil moisture in many dry areas. Topsoil supplies the first of October were 67% adequate but ended the month at 78%.

Extraction of this years honey crop was completed during October. Some producers reported a very good crop this year, especially white honey. The bees were reported to be in very good condition going into the late fall months. Bees were fed after the honey crop was extracted and honey will be added for food just before winter arrives. Several pollen and nectar sources throughout the month gave the bees an extra boost and they began to produce brood. Some producers were packing their honey crop in small containers to sell at local farmers markets and holiday bazaars. They make more money per pound by selling locally as packers began to drop their prices.

Migratory beekeepers hauled their colonies to holding yards in California where they will stay until the almonds begin to bloom next February. They treated for mites after they extracted this year honey crop but some stayed in California longer than normal so they could add another treatment.

WISCONSIN ~ ~ ~

Colonies were reported in good condition due to unseasonable warm temperatures and adequate fall showers throughout the southern section of the state. Generally, temperatures ran 3 to 4 degrees above normal. Normal for this time of year are highs in the 60's and lows in the 30's. For the month, approximately 65-68% of the State reported adequate rainfall. Some parts of the State, particularly the south-central, had rainfall of 2 inches or more. The end of the month was warm, some of the north reported light snowfall while the southern portion enjoyed temperatures in the low 70's. Beekeepers reported most colonies were in good condition. Very little disease problems were reported.

Honey demand was reported well in the retail sector. Some bulk movement was reported as beekeepers moved some honey stores.

U.S. EXPORTS OF HONEY BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION, QUANTITY & VALUE

	AUGUST 2004		YEAR TO DATE 2004	
	QUANTITY Kilograms	VALUE Dollars	QUANTITY Kilograms	VALUE Dollars
COMB HONEY & HONEY PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE ----- DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE				
Aruba	---	---	1,209	9,287
The Bahamas	---	---	1,588	3,710
Bahrain	---	---	1,951	5,608
China, Peoples Rep. of	4,638	15,820	18,464	63,781
Dominican Republic	---	---	1,083	9,959
France	---	---	4,057	5,321
Haiti	---	---	528	2,591
Hong Kong	11,055	14,500	37,033	66,053
Israel	---	---	19,200	10,236
Japan	11,583	17,087	60,694	130,098
Korea, Republic of	---	---	48,947	68,639
Kuwait	---	---	169,452	228,674
Malaysia	8,684	11,390	16,069	21,076
Mexico	---	---	2,333	3,060
Netherlands Antilles (ex. Aruba)	---	---	2,029	10,777
Philippines	---	---	187,607	255,645
Saudi Arabia	30,028	39,388	376,730	512,716
Turkey	---	---	3,000	7,248
United Arab Emirates	---	---	60,802	79,755
Yemen	37,932	118,826	95,918	268,089
SUB-TOTAL	103,920	217,011	1,107,694	1,761,323
HONEY, NATURAL, NOT ELSEWHERE INDICATED OR SPECIFIED ----- DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE				
Australia	---	---	13,440	33,000
Bahamas	832	2,630	2,678	6,817
Bahrain	---	---	470	3,797
Barbados	---	---	3,968	13,374
Bermuda	1,452	6,760	8,551	38,496
Canada	20,752	45,777	267,595	612,649
Cayman Islands	---	---	972	3,672
Chile	---	---	42,842	112,406
China, Peoples Rep. of	---	---	155,038	290,673
Costa Rica	561	2,573	37,553	104,158
Denmark	---	---	17,340	22,745
Germany	5,389	7,068	37,180	66,835
Guyana	1,687	5,357	1,687	5,357
Hong Kong	---	---	510	4,092
Indonesia	---	---	19,976	48,360
Israel	---	---	230,400	398,848
Japan	93,067	326,124	200,823	681,071
Korea, Republic of	---	---	64,205	133,057
Kuwait	---	---	212,319	281,657
Mexico	---	---	9,717	12,745
Nepal	---	---	1,642	8,823
Oman	---	---	13,022	17,080
Pakistan	---	---	11,371	9,847
Philippines	---	---	41,428	153,038
Qatar	---	---	4,741	16,757
Saudi Arabia	16,772	24,450	33,387	91,964
Singapore	11,825	15,510	19,766	25,926
Taiwan	17,717	6,300	35,434	12,600
United Arab Emirates	---	---	63,720	83,583
Yemen	---	---	2,688	65,293
SUB-TOTAL	170,054	442,549	1,573,463	3,358,720
GRAND TOTAL	273,974	659,560	2,681,157	5,120,043

U. S. IMPORTS OF HONEY BY COUNTRY, QUANTITY AND VALUE

COUNTRY	AUGUST 2004			YEAR TO DATE 2004		
	QUANTITY kilograms	CUSTOMS VALUE dollars	C.I.F. VALUE dollars	QUANTITY kilograms	CUSTOMS VALUE dollars	C.I.F. VALUE dollars
NATURAL HONEY, NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - - WHITE						
Argentina	319,113	689,626	710,024	319,113	689,626	710,024
Australia	117,000	251,331	257,148	604,112	1,394,428	1,430,470
Brazil	97,996	192,784	208,109	318,795	808,795	853,519
Canada	531,855	1,355,609	1,366,811	5,151,200	15,443,584	5,556,038
Chile	---	---	---	330,724	897,194	925,210
China, Peoples Rep. of	752,840	913,986	1,029,275	7,305,512	10,624,504	11,620,512
Germany	---	---	---	108,092	231,180	241,420
India	126,440	191,383	209,183	1,609,412	2,815,635	2,991,846
Indonesia	---	---	---	144,667	239,048	260,177
Mexico	---	---	---	302,980	772,652	789,175
Moldova, Republic of	---	---	---	18,820	35,479	37,264
New Zealand*	750	3,210	3,415	3,375	17,367	18,089
Pakistan	95,000	142,500	159,421	228,000	351,435	384,534
Peru	42,326	80,586	86,483	352,370	768,194	808,035
Poland	---	---	---	132,240	301,429	309,957
Russian Federation	---	---	---	283,635	420,198	514,698
Spain	---	---	---	435	5,272	5,349
Turkey	---	---	---	100,200	223,514	234,774
Ukraine	---	---	---	136,101	284,552	294,304
United Kingdom	---	---	---	15,725	44,393	46,357
Uruguay	---	---	---	511,480	1,183,045	1,203,569
Vietnam	---	---	---	59,136	86,304	86,306
SUB-TOTAL	2,083,320	3,821,015	4,029,869	19,035,856	37,637,828	39,321,627
NATURAL HONEY, NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - - EXTRA LIGHT AMBER						
Australia	58,500	119,892	124,107	58,500	119,892	124,107
Austria	---	---	---	3,561	16,613	17,605
Brazil	19,312	37,658	39,846	46,103	102,862	107,320
Canada	---	---	---	93,813	234,037	234,848
Chile	18,213	34,361	35,786	247,162	591,436	610,3882
China, Peoples Rep. of	56,550	92,946	99,096	1,883,280	2,397,248	2,622,138
Egypt	---	---	---	79,200	150,084	157,833
Indonesia	220,400	175,466	214,506	591,600	701,636	823,765
Mexico	57,796	120,368	123,193	325,540	810,389	831,354
Romania	---	---	---	37,797	88,663	92,646
Russian Federation	---	---	---	71,760	116,392	123,146
Turkey	---	---	---	96,000	198,400	201,844
Ukraine	18,270	34,042	35,627	35,917	71,630	76,201
Uruguay	39,429	94,525	106,353	1,150,485	2,609,209	2,700,294
Vietnam	58,000	78,975	88,445	266,248	408,477	449,780
SUB-TOTAL	489,920	695,287	767,863	4,985,966	8,616,968	9,173,269

IMPORTS continued**NATURAL HONEY, NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - - LIGHT AMBER**

Argentina	59,690	124,830	134,628	59,690	124,830	134,628
Armenia, Rep. of	---	---	---	6,560	31,289	34,320
Brazil	192,512	360,299	392,126	1,200,578	2,714,496	2,903,350
Bulgaria	37,120	70,521	75,904	302,418	696,042	731,610
Canada	---	---	---	22,124	75,734	76,829
Chile	20,910	37,774	40,774	115,842	284,885	297,845
China, Peoples Rep. of	498,070	377,860	416,560	4,212,336	4,194,971	4,561,372
Czech Republic	---	---	---	130,044	338,585	351,193
Dominican Republic	---	---	---	2,298	4,605	4,747
Egypt	---	---	---	2,576	6,271	7,615
France	824	2,946	3,334	3,180	20,225	21,613
Germany	16,877	29,906	31,895	98,416	232,749	243,198
India	681,500	813,920	900,220	2,307,585	3,811,686	4,142,930
Israel	581	2,771	3,127	7,301	36,875	39,617
Italy	---	---	---	400	2,644	2,736
Kenya	---	---	---	1,253	5,658	6,956
Lithuania	1,756	6,390	6,774	1,756	6,390	6,774
Mexico	109,831	192,798	200,027	430,078	880,726	904,216
New Zealand*	---	---	---	20,487	85,364	88,406
Pakistan	---	---	---	38,000	56,164	62,001
Peru	14,569	18,939	19,961	136,998	292,730	306,175
Portugal	---	---	---	214	2,616	2,718
Romania	38,248	78,289	81,103	641,374	1,542,067	1,604,160
Russian Federation	---	---	---	37,800	65,205	115,205
Spain	1,051	9,204	9,515	6,490	47,525	50,200
Switzerland	---	---	---	1,843	9,814	10,415
Taiwan	---	---	---	20,940	47,760	51,025
Thailand	117,000	210,568	223,620	594,000	1,204,324	1,278,510
Turkey	---	---	---	205,000	535,346	564,962
Ukraine	73,345	138,582	144,713	594,627	1,318,146	1,367,965
Uruguay	136,402	253,036	276,193	963,175	1,989,846	2,069,805
Vietnam	1,270,690	1,363,460	1,555,741	5,286,336	7,264,480	8,087,491
SUB-TOTAL	3,270,976	4,092,093	4,516,215	17,451,719	27,930,498	30,130,607

NATURAL HONEY, NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE – NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED OR INDICATED

Australia	---	---	---	10,427	65,128	67,055
Brazil	---	---	---	82,987	212,163	227,145
Canada	---	---	---	86,648	162,563	163,551
China, Republic of	153,990	123,192	145,192	249,241	224,656	256,756
Djibouti Arars-Issas	---	---	---	693	2,426	2,659
Dominican Republic	---	---	---	82,872	33,840	39,241
Egypt	---	---	---	3,870	4,485	5,027
Ethiopia	1,054	2,108	2,468	1,054	2,108	2,468
France	142	3,201	3,228	1,185	19,831	25,000
Greece	---	---	---	395	2,024	2,105
Hong Kong	---	---	---	7,776	49,248	51,399
Israel	---	---	---	863	2,968	3,171
Italy	---	---	---	5,086	19,120	21,408
Malaysia	---	---	---	41,412	90,000	95,300

IMPORTS continued...

Mexico	---	---	---	633,913	1,637,270	1,657,523
Poland	---	---	---	9,327	20,682	21,769
Portugal	4,040	9,472	9,829	4,040	9,472	9,829
Romania	---	---	---	39,622	118,747	126,247
Switzerland	3,151	25,050	26,304	17,275	147,301	154,389
Taiwan	576	3,248	3,367	30,579	100,746	102,543
Thailand	---	---	---	18,000	29,700	30,528
Turkey	---	---	---	600	4,200	4,642
United Kingdom	---	---	---	394	3,243	3,719

SUB-TOTAL	162,953	166,271	190,388	1,328,259	2,961,921	3,075,474
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GRAND TOTAL	6,007,169	8,774,666	9,504,335	41,801,800	77,147,215	81,698,977
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* Excluding Cook Islands, Niue and Tokelau

SOURCE: Department of Commerce, Foreign Trade Division

KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY SPECIAL BEEKEEPING PROJECT UPDATE

Through the efforts of Dr. Tom Webster and others at Kentucky State University, KSU received a grant in 2002 from the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board to assist Kentucky beekeepers and help support the growing pollination needs of horticulture in Kentucky. The aim of the project funded by the grant is to support Kentucky crops that require honeybee pollination by increasing the number of beekeepers in Kentucky and thereby the number of hives available for pollination. Two important aspects of this KSU project are providing honey extraction equipment to Kentucky beekeepers and improving beekeeper education by developing a master beekeeping program.

Last year Robin Mountain, formerly with Strachan Apiaries in Yuba City, California, was hired to administer this project at Kentucky State University. An important aspect of the project is, in Robin's words, "...to help make beekeeping more profitable to Kentucky beekeepers!" Obviously, if beekeeping is more profitable, we'll have more beekeepers with more hives. Robin was already a familiar face to many Kentucky beekeepers. He had spoken at KSBA meetings since moving to the United States several years ago. Robin is a native of South Africa, where he was a second-generation commercial beekeeper. Robin now resides in Frankfort with his wife Stella, sons James and Philip, and daughter Cathrine.

One of the stumbling blocks beekeepers often face in trying to increase the size of their operations is the time and effort required to extract their honey crop. It is one thing to extract from the supers of four or five hives using a small hand extractor and de-capping the frames with a knife. As the number of their hives increases, many beekeepers reach a point at which they can't grow without more efficient methods of processing their honey, but without growing they can't generate enough income to afford better equipment. Beekeepers are often discouraged from increasing the number of their hives by this catch-22. One of the goals of this project is to assist beekeepers by providing extraction equipment on a regional basis. The equipment provided is designed to allow beekeepers to extract large numbers of honey supers in a quick, efficient manner. Robin is working in large part with local beekeeping associations, which secure a central location to house the equipment and manage its use by local beekeepers. (Beekeepers need not be members of the local association to use the equipment.) The extraction units that are provided consist of an automatic de-capper, a de-capping tank that also serves as a sump for extracted honey, a 12-frame electric extractor, a honey bottling/storage tank, and an electric honey pump that pumps the honey into the bottling /storage tank. The honey is filtered as it is pumped into the bottling/storage tank. All this equipment is mounted on a wheeled sled, which is extremely mobile and easily cleaned.

This part of the KSU project is now up and running. Thus far the project has placed honey extraction units in Whitesburg, Whitley City, Paris, Burlington, Campbellsville, Scottsville and Mayfield. Additional units will be placed around the state next year. For more information on the equipment aspect of the KSU beekeeping project, contact Robin Mountain by e-mail at rmountain@gwmail.kysu.edu or by phone at (502) 597-6351.

Robin & Tom Webster are now working on the 2ND phase of the project: developing a master beekeeping program for Kentucky. The proposed program is still in the planning stage but will consist of a combination of education and testing leading to the awarding of the title "Master Beekeeper" to successful participants.

To reach the rank of Master Beekeeper, beekeepers will have to be knowledgeable in the areas of basic honeybee biology, seasonal management, diseases mites and pests, other management problems and techniques, beekeeping equipment, and honey - including honey plants, harvesting, and marketing. Testing will include demonstrating skill in the field working with bees as well as written exams. In addition, the beekeeper will be asked to show proficiency in a specialized area such as alternative hive products, queen rearing, crop pollination, working with non-beekeepers (children, media, talks to adults), teaching beginners and other beekeepers, or preparing and judging honey and other products for show.